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BRYAN'S REASONS.

W. J. Bryan says in the Commoner these are the three chief causes for the "decadence" of the Progressive party:

First—The failure of Theodore Roosevelt to win a following on his personality alone.

Second—The failure of the Progressive party platform to present any new and clean cut issue; and,

Third—Too much activity on the part of George W. Perkins, whom the people associate with trusts.

"No permanent party," Mr. Bryan adds, "can be built up on any man. A man may make an effective protest against something done by another man or group of men, but mere personal influence is necessarily temporary."

"The Progressive party did not present any new or clear cut issues. No one could tell by reading the platform what tariff reduction to expect, what changes to look for in the currency, or what anti-trust remedies to prepare for; and it will be remembered that Mr. Roosevelt has failed to give the Progressives in Congress any interpretation of that platform."

"Mr. Perkins was a liability instead of an asset. His contributions to the party's campaign fund could not overcome the odium which his intimacy with Mr. Roosevelt brought upon the party."

"The Progressive leaned toward reforms, and had they joined the Democratic party they would have strengthened the reform element in that party, but Mr. Roosevelt denounced the Democratic party as bitterly as he did the Republican party."

While Mr. Bryan has given three very good reasons he might have added a fourth more than would be equally applicable. He might have added that the best reason was the desire of an outraged and enraged people to rebuke the Progressives for electing a Democratic administration to upset and unsettle business conditions.

That no party can command a substantial following and respect that is founded upon malice and revenge, and whose avowed and declared object was the destruction of the Republican party, a party upon whose wisdom the very cornerstone of prosperity and progressive governmental policies rests.

Mr. Bryan might have also added that the voters have taken a sane look at conditions as they now prevail and have concluded that the only way to check an incompetent and unbridled Democratic reign of extravagance and foolhardy legislation is to return the Republican party to power, which can only be done by uniting the factions of that party upon the sound principle of protection on which they fully agree. While the Progressive party and its leadership are sufficient reasons for its own disintegration, still the best reason for its early demise is Mr. Bryan and his Democratic party.

FIRST WOMAN PHYSICIAN.

The first woman physician in America was Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell, who received the degree of M. D. at Geneva, N. Y., 65 years ago. Miss Blackwell was a native of Bristol, England, but came to America in her youth. When she was about 22 she determined to become a physician, but she found many obstacles in her path. Her application for admission was sternly refused by nearly all of the leading

medical colleges of the United States and Canada, to whom she applied in turn. At last she received a favorable response from the head of the medical department of a little college in Geneva, N. Y., and began her studies. As soon as the novelty had worn off, and the students and faculty realized that the girl was not only earnest but highly competent, she was treated with respect, even admiration. In the little town, however, she was looked upon as insane or wicked, and the Geneva hostesses refused to have anything to do with her. Such social ostracism had no effect on Miss Blackwell, who calmly pursued her way, and graduated at the head of her class. She then continued her studies in European hospitals, after which she returned to New York and opened an infirmary for women and children and organized a woman's medical college.

The camel also has a unique distinction. We refer to that of being homelier than a man.

Buck Kilby, whose marital relations are none so felicitous, has no patience with the theory that the devil is of the masculine gender.

The rule is that those who are enthusiastic about the farm never saw one close at hand.

The trouble with a good many of the unemployed is that they are not looking for jobs, but for positions.

Give the average man's artistic feeling free play and the probabilities are that it will express itself in a pink necktie.

State Editors

Lack of roads, good, or even fairly good roads, is costing Roane county a large sum. The loss cannot be calculated in dollars and cents. The loss of a good citizen is a more serious matter than the loss of mere money, and this county has lost many of her best citizens in the course of the past three or four years.—Spencer Times Record.

We never knew what a clean cut, fine looking young rooster Editor L. M. Davis, of the Fairmont West Virginian was until the Publishers' Auxiliary printed his picture. Howdy, L. M. Say, you've got our goat. M. Say, you've got our goat.—Pochontas Independent.

The Fairmont West Virginian, one of the leading Republican papers of the state and which has always done valiant party service, highly compliments John Guy Pritchard, who is a candidate for clerk of the house of delegates. Mr. Pritchard is well known to Tyler and our people have a warm feeling for him. He conducted Middlebourne's first lot sale and the memory of his square dealing with the public, his friendliness and genial personality are well remembered. He has always been a faithful and valuable party worker and his qualifications are beyond question. He is a graduate of the Fairmont normal and the University and for a number of years has been a successful lawyer. Young men of Mr. Pritchard's class should be recognized and encouraged.—Tyler County Star.

CURIOUS FACTS.

Ireland's 1914 hay crop is estimated at 5,005,591 tons.

Alabama in three years has built 1,991 miles of good roads.

American women yearly buy more than \$10,000,000 worth of millinery supplies from France.

It is estimated that 28,000,000 persons attend the 4,500 moving picture theaters of England each week.

Jumpier from the Indian reservations of New Mexico and Arizona may prove an excellent source of material for lead pencils.

Peking, China, is to have a belt railway to connect its four railway terminals. Later it is to have a central station. Tunnels are to be bored through the ancient walls to facilitate the handling of traffic.

The area of Greece previous to the recent war with Turkey was 25,010 square miles and there was a population of about 2,670,000. As a result of the war the boundaries of the Hellenic kingdom increased 19,690 square miles and 2,130,000 persons were added to the population.

The Colorado woman's eight-hour law is sweeping in its application. It includes bookkeepers, stenographers and cashiers who are employed in mercantile establishments, according to a ruling of Judge C. C. Butler, of Denver.

Luke McLuke

(From Cincinnati Enquirer.)

The reason a bride promises to love, honor and obey is because she doesn't know the fellow as well as she will about a year later.

What has become of the old-fashioned man who wore reversible paper collars?

The man who used to holler "Ah, there my size!" when he was a boy, now has a son who says "O, you kid!"

You can always tell when a woman is fond of dress by the scanty amount of it she wears.

A woman hasn't much use for her husband when she doesn't get any pleasure out of quarreling with him.

No married man can ever understand why a bachelor needs a vacation.

If the Fool Killer would stay on the job 24 hours a day, about half the lawyers would have to get out of business.

It takes the germ of suspicion to put the microscope of love on the Fritz.

A man can have a fine grocer

CHLOE O' MY HEART
It is not that you are so fair to see,
Dear Chloe of the tender heart and winsome way—
Though passing fair you've always been to me,
Since first my heart with yours was wont to stray;

It is not that your hushing eye so fair
Has caught the bright irradiance of the morn—
Nor that the sun has tangled in your hair
The roseate tint in western cloud camps born;

It is because within your gentle soul,
Sweet Chloe of the winsome way and tender heart,
Live all the graces that the gods control—
Worn yet as lightly as a player's part;

It is because since first our lives were young
Your hand in mine has led me through the night;
It is because your goodness is unsung—
I love you as the roses love the light.
—LESLIE BAYLISS.
Charleston, W. Va., Dec. 20, 1914.

against his wife when he gets home because he didn't get a seat on a street car.

Lots of men get to the top, but only a few can stand the high altitude.

Lots of people who can recite the story of Cain's wife can't remember the Ten Commandments.

A good deal of the patience we hear about is nothing but laziness.

If a married man doesn't know that he is a fool it isn't because his wife hasn't told him so often enough.

You can't get any medicine in a man when he gets sick. But when a woman gets sick she wants a whole drugstore.

A woman knows you can't make an omelet out of a bad egg, but she will marry a man to reform him.

Best Stories.

A CLOCK STOPPER.

The great detective put down the iced tea hypodermic needle and looked closely at his visitor. With one lightning glance he noticed that she was crossed-eyed on both sides, especially the right; pug-nosed, hare-lipped, freckled, and that her chin was so receding as to look almost ashamed of its presence there at all.

"You say," he remarked, thoughtfully, "that your eight-day clock stops unaccountably in spite of its guarantee?"

"Absolutely in spite of it," she replied. "When I take it to the jeweler's it goes all right, but as soon as I bring it home again it stops. It's not because I don't wind it, for it's right after I wind it that it generally stops. Baffling, isn't it? I should say so! It's my favorite clock and I can't rest until I find out the cause."

"Well—ah—" began the great detective, crossing his arms and at the same time uncrossing his legs so as not to give himself the double cross. "Well, do you—ah—look straight at it at the clock when you wind it?"

"Why, yes. I stare right at it, of course."

Again the great detective took a lightning survey of the homeliest woman that had ever crossed his threshold.

"Madame," he said at length, "I advise you to try winding it with your back to it. No special reason, of course; I merely deduct that it's that kind of a clock. No fee"—Louisville Times.

Just Smiles

How Friend Wife Gets a Vase.
An amusing thing occurred at the Elk carnival. A man drew a vase and just as he started to hand it to a young lady standing by wife stepped up from out of the crowd and pointed to a handsome vase in the booth, saying: "I'll take that one." And she got it.—Ashland (Ky.) Independent.

Fun With Famous Folk.
Is Ella Flagg Young?
What made Sir William Armstrong?
What river did Sewell Ford?

What was it John Drew?
Where can Henry Clay Barnabee?
What made Harold Bell Wright?

How does Robert Treat Paine?
From where did Matthew Hale?
What did William Tell?

How many did Nat Goodwin?
Can Captain Cook?

The Stages of the Pin in a Woman's Life.
Hairpins.
Fraternity Pins.
Clothes Pins.
Safety Pins.
—Cumberland News.

Now, What Do You Mix With It?
Wanted—Married man to work on milk wagon. Must be neat, sober and industrious and a good mixer.—Ottumwa (Iowa) Courier.

Remarkable War Scenes.
A double sheet colored supplement of war photographs, realistic pictures taken in the European battle zones, will be an extra feature of the big New York Sunday World January 3.

As a special, separate insert of this edition of The Sunday World there will also be a beautiful colored calendar complete for 1915, deserving of a conspicuous place in your home, office or store. Order The Sunday World from newsdealers in advance. Edition limited.

LOST—A ladies' open faced gold watch on suburban car leaving Fairmont yesterday at 10 a. m. Initials engraved E. A. Reward if returned to this office. 12-21-31

Current Comment

WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH THE UNITED STATES.

(By Herbert N. Casson.)

From the European point of view, the United States is a haven of peace and security and prosperity. It has no troubles that it dare mention to Belgium or Austria or France or Germany or Serbia or Great Britain or Russia.

Every tenth Frenchman has enlisted. Every tenth Frenchman is at the front. Every tenth Belgian is dead. What does the United States know of trouble?

If I could afford it, I would charter the Mauretania and Lusitania and convey a party of 5,000 American adventurers to Europe for a trip of education. I would give them a week in London, a week in Paris and a week in Antwerp.

I would let them look at the United States from the scene of the war. I would give them a look at real trouble. I would let them see trains, ten at a time, five minutes apart, packed with the maimed and the dying.

I would let them hear, from fragmentary survivors, the incredible story of battlefields 150 miles wide and armies that are greater than the entire population of Texas.

I would let them see graves 100 yards long and full, and Belgium, the country that was, nothing now but 12,000 square miles of wreckage.

Then, when they began to understand, to some extent, the magnitude and awfulness of this war, I would say to them:

"Now go back and appreciate the United States. Realize your opportunities. Don't start digging trenches when nobody is firing at you. Don't fall down when you have not been hit. Don't be blind to the most glorious chance you have ever had in your life."

"Go back and advertise. Get ready for the most tremendous business boom that any nation ever had. Build your factories bigger. Train more salesmen. Borrow more money. Go ahead, and thank God that you are alive, and that you are living in a land that is at peace, at a time when nearly the whole world is at war."

(From "Associated Advertising" by the courtesy of Frank C. McCray.)

Old Men in War Service.

The retirement of Rear Admiral Nicholson takes from the active list of the navy the last veteran of the Civil War. Nicholson entered the service at 12, in 1864, as a messenger. The only remaining veteran in the army. Col. Clem, a drummer boy in 1865, who will retire next year.

Promotion is slow in our service, and a man seldom reaches the higher grades until he is nearly ready to retire. In the army at 64, in the navy at 62. The retired list of Rear Admirals is six times as long as the active list. There are four times as many Lieutenant and Major Generals upon the retired list as Major Generals in service.

The business of war is now being conducted in Europe by men who have reached our retiring age. The Grand Duke Nicholas is only 58, but Gen. Kitchener is 64 and Gen. French 62; and the French and German forces abound in veterans. Von Kluck, hero of the dash on Paris, and Gen. von Hausen are 68. Gen. von Hindenburg, victor of the Mazur Lakes, is 67. Generals Moltke, ex-Chief of Staff, and von Emmich, of Liege fame, are 66. So is that impetuous one armed beau sabreur, the French Gen. Pau. Gen. Gallieni, whose army of Paris hastened the German retreat to the Aisne, is 65. Field Marshal von der Goltz and the French commander in chief, Gen. Joffre, are 62.

In the strain of modern warfare younger men have not thrust veterans aside by their superior energy, but old men have been called upon from the retired lists to command armies. In the main, the war is directed by generals twenty years or more past the age when Napoleon said a man was no longer fit to be a soldier.—N. Y. World.

China.
The population of China has never been exactly ascertained. The latest census, taken in 1902, is said to yield total of 410,000,000. Perhaps 300,000,000 would be a juster estimate; even that would absorb no less than one-fifth of the human race. From this total it is easy to estimate that if the Chinese people were to march past a given point in a single file the procession would never end; long before the last of the 300,000,000 had passed by a new generation would have sprung up to continue the endless line.

After all, about the most delightful Christmas message a fellow can get begins: "Enclosed please find check."—Pittsburgh Gazette Times.

Profitable Trade.
Of \$1,000,000 recently stolen in New York only 5 per cent has been recovered. Burglary seems to be on a sound financial foundation.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

For Museum Use.
Some taxidermist should tackle the Bull Moose before the cattle inspectors seize it.—Boston Advertiser.

Reasonable Request.
A chauffeur named Hellwag has very properly asked the court to change his name.—Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

Everybody's Business.
The war orphans are the wards of the world.—Baltimore American.

Much Better.
Do you treat your cook like one of the family?

"Oh, dear no. I wouldn't dare to say a cross word to her."—Baltimore American.

Full Fleet Going To Practice Grounds

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—Secretary of the Navy Daniels announced today that the entire Atlantic Fleet will soon be mobilized for battle practice off Guantanamo.

When the fleet is assembled for practice it will be the first time in two years that four divisions consisting of four battleships each have worked together.

Naval officers of rank insist that the failure to hold the annual fleet practice last winter and last spring resulted in disorganizing the fleet as a battle unit and thereby reduced its efficiency as a fighting machine.

The excuse made by the Navy Department for failure to mobilize the entire fleet was that the vessels were needed in Mexico and that it was more important to keep a powerful line of battleships off Vera Cruz than it was to assemble them for practice. In reply to this excuse, naval officers have insisted that gunboats or destroyers would have served as well as battleships in Mexican waters.

Will Tell Teddy That Jig is Up

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—Alva L. McDonald of El Reno, Chairman of the Progressive Party of Oklahoma was in Washington today on his way to Oyster Bay, where he will have a conference on Tuesday with Col. Roosevelt.

"I am going to tell the Colonel," said Mr. McDonald, "that the Progressive Party is at an end. We can no longer afford to be an aid society to the Democratic Party. I do not agree with Mr. Perkins that political expediency demands that we continue as an organization in 1916. Personally, I am in favor of the nomination of Myron T. Herrick of Ohio for President in 1916."

New Navy 16-inch Gun Proves Disappointing

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—A report has been made to the Navy Department that the new navy 16-inch gun recently tested at Indian Head is not more effective than the existing 15-inch gun for armament of super-dreadnoughts.

This statement, showing that the limit of building colossal guns for the United States navy had been reached, was made to The American today by officers of the navy.

Officials of the Foreign Intelligence Bureau of the navy also declare they have information that Germany and England are aware of the limitations of the construction of naval guns and have decided upon a 15-inch gun as "the last thing" in gun construction.

Revival Blamed for Conviction of Woman

HATTIESBURG, Miss., Dec. 22.—Because the jury heard a revival sermon while conducting her case, Helen Elliott, negroess, convicted of operating a "blind tiger," is asking for

The motion for the new trial states that the jury was unable to agree on retiring from the courtroom, and was permitted to go to a tent revival meeting. It happened that the evangelist took for his text "Wine is a mocker, and strong drink is raging," and preached such a strong sermon on the theme of intoxicating liquors that some of the jurors were convicted of their sins and went down to the mourners' bench and were converted. The bill states further that all those jurors who had favored acquittal before hearing the sermon were changed and the verdict next day was for conviction.

Hunters Kill Rabbits By Automobile Light

DIXON, Ill., Dec. 22.—The rabbit hunters of Dixon have hit upon a new way to capture bunny. They are now doing their hunting at night and use specially equipped automobiles for the work. A large searchlight is mounted on the car and the hunter takes his seat beside the driver, flashing the light from side to side of the country roads.

The rabbits are blinded by the light and become easy victims of the hunter. Many farmers who have their farms posted forbidding hunting are up in arms, saying that night shooting is killing all the rabbits, and they know of no way to stop it.

Orders Baby Boy Sent by Parcels Post

GRAND FORKS, N. D., Dec. 22.—Mrs. E. M. Pierce, living on a rural route out of Stanley, N. D., wishing to adopt a baby boy abandoned on a doorstep, has just arranged for his immediate delivery, parcel post, from her home post office.

"Place the little fellow in a basket," she counseled Mrs. Pearl Blough, police matron in charge of the baby. "Put in two or three bottles of milk. Mail him on the early morning train, and the rural route carrier will meet the train. His carriage is covered and he will have a stove in it, so the baby will not suffer. Be sure to send the baby by the first mail."

B. & O. Ticket Agent Recovers From Fall

J. O. Hecker, day ticket agent at the local B. & O. station, who was injured last week by a fall on an icy

Christmas Will Soon Be Here.

Christmas will soon be here. Why not buy a useful present? You will be able to find them in our line of Gents Wearing Apparel. Pay us a visit before buying.

OPEN OF EVENINGS.

R. GILKESON

"That Totally Different Shop."

Tailor, Clothier and Furnisher . . 107 Main Street

Of Service to You

The First National Bank of Fairmont will be glad to be of service to you and cordially invites you to inspect our facilities for handling your banking business promptly and efficiently. Make this your depository by starting an account, subject to check.

First National Bank OF FAIRMONT

LITTLE BOBBIE'S PA

By William F. Kirk

The teacher asked me to rite a essay about the buties of Nature, I sed to Pa, last nite, & I doant know anything about it. I can't rite about if I doant know it.

Then you will never beekum a riter, sed Pa. A riter can rite about anything, whether he knows anything about it or not.

I doant agree with you, deer, sed Ma.

Nevertheless it is the truth, sed Pa. It always calm natural to me to rite & and I never cared whether I knew about a subject or not wen I rote about it.

& that is jest why you never rote anything that anybody ever heard of, sed Ma. Doant get Bobbie's head turned with yure foolish speeches. You know he cant rite about the buties of Nature unless he has seen them.

They are all about him, sed Pa. That is why I talk him hunting & fishing with me so much. I will start his essay for him, & then he can finish it & he needent tell his teacher that I helped him if he doesn't want to. Then Pa went into the library & this is how he began my essay:

The buties of nature are very butiful. That is to say, they are luvly to the eye, wich is the saim thing differently expressed. The waving tree, the lowing kine, the gentel fro that sets on yonder primrose bank & blinks at the sun, the trout that darts up the stream and grabs an angel worm with a hook in it, the lamb that strotches its graceful limbs in the pastur, all of these buties of nature are pleasing to the human eye & the soul of a thinker like me.

What a awkward way to begin a

essay, sed Ma, to say The buties of Nature are very butiful. It is like saying The hair on a dog is very hairy.

Doant interrupt me till I have finshed, sed Pa, this is how I end my part of Bobbie's essay:

From the beginning of all time man has looked up to & adored the buties of Nature. The leaves on the trees are green in the Summer, & so is the grass on the ground. They are green that no artist has ever matched. What grate painter, except a brother, ever painted a flaming red nest in the Autumn, all crimson & gold. The buties of Nature cannot be did oaver by man, but eternal & sublime butiful they shall butify Nature until the planet has crumbled away to dust a billion years from now or may be a billion & a quarter years.

I think you better, let Bobbie rite his own littel essay, sed Ma. This teacher will think the poor child is very dumb if he starts off his essay like that.

Is that so? sed Pa. I doant think you are much of a critic, sed Pa. You never rote anything yurself & certainly if you cant rite you cant criticize. To be a critic, one must be a riter, too.

Well, sed Ma, if that is the case you arent much of a critic either. Bobbie, wouldnt you rather rite yure own essay?

No, I sed, I think that is a grand start Pa has rote.

When Ma wasent looking, Pa galyv me fifty cents & of course I took it but I am going to rite my own essay anyway.—Copyright, 1914, Brook Feature Syndicate.

pavement, is recovering from his injuries at his home in Jackson avenue. He will soon be able to resume his duties.

Girl Tells Police She Was Kidnapped

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Dec. 22.—Accused of kidnapping a Follansbee, W. Va., school girl a week ago, F. Ettica, 21 years old, of Follansbee, was arrested yesterday evening with his captiva, Philofina Andrezzi, 13 years old, at Grant street and Liberty avenue, by Secret Service Operative Gabriel de Flore.

Placed in the care of the matron in Central police station, the child said Ettica had kidnapped her from a public school in Follansbee on Monday. The man told her they were going to Steubenville, O., but instead he

brought her to Pittsburgh. A day or two later they went to Schenectady, N. Y., and last Saturday night they returned to Pittsburgh, registering in a hotel as brother and sister.

De Flore notified the Follansbee police following the arrest and a warrant charging kidnapping was sent to the Pittsburgh authorities by the police of the West Virginia town. Ettica will be detained here until Follansbee detectives arrange for his extradition.